

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Parks and Recreation



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

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## Groundbreaking for Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding's new home

*Parks & Rec teams up with CTR for Riding facility*

(Bel Air, MD) - - Harford County Department of Parks and Recreation has teamed up with Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding to create a permanent home for the Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding Program. A Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at Oakington Farms at 900 A Tydings Lane in Havre de Grace. A reception with light refreshments will follow the Groundbreaking Ceremony at Swan Harbor Farm located at 401 Oakington Road in Havre de Grace.

"This is an excellent partnership to help better serve the citizens of Harford County. A permanent year round therapeutic riding facility is needed in the county," said Harford County Executive David R. Craig.

Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding, Incorporated is dedicated to providing a fun and unique healing experience for individuals and groups. CTR's riders and families find hope, growth and compassion through the kindness of benefactors, volunteers and horses.

CTR and Parks and Recreation would like to provide the best encounter possible in a healing and loving environment. Activities are carefully designed to challenge, draw out and encourage riders, their families and volunteers.

"Our goal is to use our resources to cultivate self-esteem and a sense of accomplishment in our riders while improving their quality of life," said Cathy Schmidt, Executive Director for Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding.

The new home will better serve the community as the only year round therapeutic riding organization serving children and adults with special needs, disadvantaged or at-risk youth and the elderly in Harford County. CTR has raised \$75,000, half of the \$150,000, which County Executive Craig challenged them to raise for the project. The county has moved forward with Phase 1 of the project with this contribution in hand. The cost of \$420,000 for this phase includes: the design, demolition of dilapidated structures, construction of driveways and parking areas and the creation of future pasturelands.

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Currently, CTR resides in Fallston. The permanent facility will be located at Oakington Farms in Havre de Grace.

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*“Preserving Harford’s past. Promoting Harford’s future.”*